

**Lake Superior State University  
Board of Trustees  
Minutes of Meeting  
Lake Superior State University  
Walker Cisler Student and Conference Center  
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan  
September 21, 2018**

The Board of Trustees of Lake Superior State University met in regular session beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, September 21, 2018, in the Walker Cisler Student and Conference Center, West Superior Room, Lake Superior State University, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. The meeting was pursuant to Section 1.01. of the Bylaws of said Board with notice to the Board pursuant to Section 1.04., and public notice pursuant to Section 1.05. of the Bylaws.

The section numbers and headings of these minutes correspond to the agenda. A copy of the proposed agenda was distributed to each Trustee at the public session of September 21, 2018. The proposed agenda had been distributed pursuant to Section 1.04. of the Bylaws. Copies of all such material are contained as appendices to these minutes.

At the call to order, there were several members in the audience and there was one member of the press.

**I. Roll Call**

Mr. Rodney M. Nelson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. He asked Ms. Kaye M. Batho, Secretary, to call the roll. The following members responded “present”:

Mr. Richard Barch  
Mr. Rodney M. Nelson  
Ms. Ann Parker  
Mr. Randy Pingatore  
Ms. Sandi Frost Steensma  
Dr. Rodney S. Hanley, President and Ex-Officio

Five Trustees were recorded as present with Trustee Parker via teleconference. Mr. Thomas Bailey and Dr. Mark Mercer were recorded as absent. Present for the University were Mr. Dakota Baker, Student Government President; Ms. Wendy Beach, Director of Human Resources, Safety and Risk; Mr. Thomas Coates, Foundation Director; Dr. Lynn Gillette, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Mr. John Kawauchi, Vice President for Enrollment, Marketing and IT; Dr. David Paitson, Athletic Director; Dr. Chris Smith, Faculty

Association President; Mr. Maurice Walworth, Vice President for Finance and Operations; and Dr. Shelley Wooley, Interim Dean of Student Life.

**II. Approval of the Agenda for September 21, 2018**

Ms. Frost Steensma moved for Board approval to amend the agenda for September 21, 2018, under VII. Finance Committee to change item D. to an action item to approve from notify of intent to sell real assets; and under VII. Finance Committee item E. to add approval of purchase of property recommendation as presented. This motion was supported by Mr. Pingatore. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

**III. Approval of the Minutes for July 20, 2018**

Ms. Frost Steensma moved for Board approval of the minutes from July 20, 2018 as presented; supported by Mr. Pingatore. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

**IV. Addresses to the Board**

Faculty member, Dr. Joe Susi addressed the Board to thank the administration, President Hanley and Provost Gillette for the program of athletic training and the history that Dr. Susi has had at the University. The Chair thanked him for his comments.

Trustee Mercer joined the meeting at 8: 36 a.m. via teleconference.

**V. Chair's Remarks**

Mr. Nelson welcomed all to the Board meeting. He stated that the Board and President Hanley had a reception with the Student Government Officers on September 20, 2018 and it was very productive and informative.

Chair Nelson commended faculty member Dr. Aaron Westrick for his recent documentary regarding a whistleblowing case with a company and his role in the investigation.

Chair Nelson commended Dr. Hanley for his strategic initiatives and for his plans in moving the University forward. He also stated that when he joined the Board Ms. Batho, Mr. Coates and Mr. Walworth were at the Board table and commended them for their years of service.

**VI. President's Remarks**

Dr. Hanley welcomed all to the Board meeting. He informed the Board of updates including FTIC students are up 35.9% from last year. He added that LSSU's retention rate is at 72.32% which is substantially above the national average.

Dr. Hanley updated the Board of his plans for moving the CFRE project forward regarding construction and fundraising, housing master plan, new athletic facility and new certificate programs to name a few. He also read a letter from a community member who was so pleased with the decision to keep the pool open that she gave a donation of \$1000.

**VII. Finance Committee Report**

Mr. Walworth informed the Board of an overview of the fiscal year 2019 financials and that it is comparable to last year with adequate cash flow and operations. He added that the auxiliary budget will be presented at an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Walworth provided the Board an update regarding the issuance of \$21.9 million in bonds to finance the previously Board approved performance contract with Johnson Controls, Inc.

Ms. Frost Steensma moved for Board approval of the recommendation to sell real assets as deemed appropriate as presented and specifically the 1973 Rolls Royce car; properties at 1902 and 1904 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI and at 2397 CR 377, McMillan, MI as presented; supported by Mr. Pingatore. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Walworth presented to the Board a recommended timeline for the CFRE project. Mr. Coates also presented to the Board an update on fundraising for the CFRE project.

Ms. Frost Steensma moved for Board approval of the recommendation for the CFRE project timeline and the related expenditures. Those expenditures included the continued contractual relationship with SmithGroup JJR, execution of a new contract with Spence Brothers, and the purchase of property from the city of Sault Ste. Marie, MI for \$500,000 as presented; supported by Mr. Pingatore. The Chair requested a roll call vote. The results of the roll call vote were:

Mr. Richard Barch	"Yes"
Dr. Mark W. Mercer	"Yes"
Mr. Rodney M. Nelson	"Yes"

Ms. Ann Parker	“Yes”
Mr. Randy Pingatore	“Yes”
Ms. Sandi Frost Steensma	“Yes”

The motion carried with unanimous roll call vote.

Ms. Frost Steensma moved for Board approval of the recommendation to approve the fiscal year 2019 general fund budget which demonstrates a \$968,104 deficit as presented (Appendix A); supported by Mr. Pingatore. The Chair requested a roll call vote. The results of the roll call vote were:

Mr. Richard Barch	“Yes”
Dr. Mark W. Mercer	“Yes”
Mr. Rodney M. Nelson	“Yes”
Ms. Ann Parker	“Yes”
Mr. Randy Pingatore	“Yes”
Ms. Sandi Frost Steensma	“Yes”

The motion carried with unanimous roll call vote.

Ms. Frost Steensma moved for Board approval for the recommendation to further investigate a P3 housing plan that jointly addresses the needs of housing and athletics through a continued contractual relation with Reith Jones Associates, selection of a financial advisor, selection of a legal counsel and selection of a development partner as presented; supported by Mr. Pingatore. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Frost Steensma moved for Board approval for the recommendation to continue the proposed contract with Andrews Hooper Pavlik, PLC as the auditing firm for the next five years as presented; supported by Mr. Pingatore. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

### **VIII. Human Resources Committee Report**

Ms. Beach informed the Board of an overview of the University’s Title IX procedures, investigations and training. She provided the Board the annual Title IX report. She stated that currently for 2017-18 there are 20 reports and two Title IX violations. She added that last year there were 29 reports.

### **IX. Academic Affairs Committee Report**

Dr. Gillette gave an overview of the action items before the Board including conferral of degrees, certificate program proposal and charter school action items.

Mr. Pingatore moved for Board approval of the recommendation to confer the appropriate degrees upon the list of candidates for summer semester 2018 as certified by the Registrar as having completed their graduation requirements; supported by Ms. Frost Steensma. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Pingatore moved for Board approval of a culinary arts chef certificate pending HLC approval as presented; supported by Ms. Frost Steensma. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Gillette informed the Board of informational items including the next steps regarding the HLC reaccreditation process including a status report on strategic planning to be submitted January 25, 2019 and a focused visit on March 25-26, 2019. He informed the Board of the on-going and continuous plans for program review and assessment and commended the faculty for their assistance.

Dr. Gillette informed the Board that the University's retention rate for freshmen to sophomore is 72.32%, which is an increase from 63.99% last year.

Dr. Gillette commended Dr. Smith for his role in assisting with the LSSU Faculty Association and the negotiation process.

Dr. Smith informed the Board of informational items from LSSU Faculty Association including upcoming engineering ABET visit and an upcoming business accreditation visit. He stated that a few recent student research projects include an archeological project for geology students on campus, students involved in various research with War Memorial Hospital and aquaculture research for fisheries students.

Mr. Oshelski informed the Board of informational charter school updates including a summary of the annual report, 21 charters currently and that the total students enrolled at University charters schools is approximately 9,300.

Mr. Pingatore moved for Board approval of the recommendation to appoint the following individuals to their respective Charter School Board of Directors for the terms listed:

Betsy Bulthius to iCademy for a term expiring on June 30, 2021; and

Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din to Way Academy for a term expiring on June 30, 2021.

The motion was supported by Mr. Barch. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

**X. Enrollment**

Mr. Kawauchi, Ms. Stacy Post, Admission's Director and Mr. Jason Wenglikowki, Marketing Communications Director, informed the Board of recruitment initiatives focusing on increased digital targeting, advertisements and new billboards. Mr. Kawauchi stated that he is optimizing the target reach with better known markets, greater use of CRM, optimizing financial aid/pricing in addition to finalizing the termination of a previous marketing contract. He stated that the fall 2018 total enrollment is 2007, compared to 1992 last year.

**XI. Student Affairs Committee Report**

Mr. Baker informed the Board of informational items from Student Government including moving the food pantry to a different location on campus for better accessibility, upcoming Student Government elections, Searchmont ski events for 2018-19 and increased social media for Student Government. He stated that Student Government is working with the University to establish a bar/pub on campus by spring semester.

Dr. Wooley informed the Board of informational items from student affairs including Cisler renovations, student retention of 72.32%, student activities to emphasize affirm, connect, succeed theme for student success. She stated that LSSU has 1200 students that are first generation college students.

Dr. Paitson informed the Board of information items from athletics including new hires for NCAA compliance officer, strength and conditioning coach and two assistant coaches. He informed the Board that LSSU athletes' overall gpa is 3.11 and that their retention rate is 90%.

**XII. Development Committee Report**

Mr. Coates informed the Board of informational foundation items including the CFRE project being first priority for fundraising. He stated that the Lake State Classic raised \$22,000 for athletics and the Cooper Classic raised \$12,000 for men's basketball program. He reminded all that the WMH/LSSU Simulation Center ribbon cutting ceremony is today at 12 noon.

Mr. Coates informed the Board that the Norris Center pool activity and revenues are increasing and that JKL Bahweting, Sault Area Schools and Sault Competitive Aquatics team are all contributing. He commended Mr. Derric Knight and Ms. Abbie Laajala for their assistance on the pool activities.

**XIII. Other Business**

Ms. Frost Steensma commended the Student Government for organizing the Secretary of State's Register to Vote bus on campus.

**XIV. Adjournment**

Mr. Barch moved for adjournment at 10:35 a.m.; supported by Ms. Frost Steensma. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

---

Rodney M. Nelson  
Chair

---

Rodney S. Hanley  
President

Minutes prepared by Ms. Kaye M. Batho, Secretary.  
A draft of these minutes was completed on September 26, 2018.